MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN NEW YORK CITY, ON OCTOBER 14, 1933.

The fifth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1934, was held in New York City on Saturday, October 14, 1933. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Swartwout,
Mr. Lawrie,
Mr. Savage,
and Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer. Also Mr. William Mitchell Kendall, representing the firm of McKim, Mead and White, architects of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, was present.

1. SCULPTURAL GROUPS FOR THE ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE: The Commission met at the studio of Mr. Leo Friedlander, sculptor, 101 Park Avenue, at 9:00 o'clock in the morning to inspect the 3/16-inch scale models of the sculptural groups for the Arlington Memorial Bridge, to be placed on the pedestals at the entrance to the Memorial Bridge at the Lincoln Memorial Plaza. One of the groups represents Valor and the other Sacrifice; each groups consists of a horse and rider and a woman. The groups when completed will be 16'8" high and will be cut in stone. They will balance the sculptural groups representing Peace and the arts of Peace at the entrance of the Rock Creek Parkway by Mr. James E. Fraser. These groups will be 15'6" high.

The Commission were highly pleased with the models and congratulated Mr. Friedlander on the result of his work. The Commission approved the models and expressed the hope that arrangements can be made to proceed with the work. Mr. Friedlander explained that the groups will be composed of seven blocks of stone.

Mr. Friedlander was awarded the Medal of Honor of 1933 by the Architectural League of New York for the distinguished and monumental qualities shown in these equestrian groups for the Arlington Memorial Bridge.

A report was sent to the Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations. (Exhibit A; see also A-1)

2. SCULPTURAL PEDIMENT FOR THE ARCHIVES BUILDING: The Commission met at the studio of Mr. James E. Fraser, sculptor, at Westport, Connecticut, about 1:00 p. m. to inspect his sculptural groups for the pediment on the Archives Building to face Constitution Avenue, which is being built by John Russell Pope, architect. The pediment on the Pennsylvania Avenue side of the Archives Building is being modeled by Mr. Weinman.

The Commission inspected the model with a great deal of interest. It was at a scale of 2 inches to the foot. Though finished and complete in detail, Mr. Fraser will enlarge it to one-third full size for the carvers to work from. The pediment, in stone, will be 118 feet long and Mr. Fraser thinks probably the largest in existence. It will be 88 feet above the ground. The central figure, an archivist, with a book on his lap, willbe about 12 feet in height, with the attendant figures and supplementary groups on each side proportionately smaller. At the extreme ends of the pediment are two groups of watch dogs.

At the apex is a conventional classical acroteria and eagle acroterii are at the ends. These, Mr. Fraser said, would require further study. He was particularly concerned about the molding just under the cornice on the background behind the figures. As shown on the model it looked noticeably hard, which would be too strong a line in the final pediment. Alternate schemes of the molding were shown and the Commission concurred with Mr. Fraser that the

molding be made less prominent.

Mr. Lawrie talked over various matters of detail with Mr. Fraser and on the whole Mr. Lawrie regarded the figures and the pedimental arrangement of them very fine sculpture, as did the other members of the Commission and Mr. William Mitchell Kendall. The Commission approved the model and sent a letter of approval to Mr. John Russell Pope, the architect. (Exhibit B)

C O P Y

October 17, 1933.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting in New York City on October 14, 1933, inspected the 3/16-inch scale models of the sculptural groups for the Arlington Memorial Bridge head near the Lincoln Memorial, by Mr. Leo Friedlander, sculptor. The Commission unanimously approved the models.

The models were also inspected by Mr. William Mitchell Kendall representing the firm of McKim, Mead and White, architects of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, who was very well pleased with them.

The Commission would like to see the sculptural groups by Mr. Friedlander and also those by Mr. Fraser, whose 3/16-inch scale models were approved several months ago, completed at the earliest time possible.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Parks, Buildings and
Reservations,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS & RESERVATIONS
Washington, D. C.

October 23, 1933.

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Building,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Equestrian Groups at Bridge Plaza,
Arlington Memorial Bridge Project.

Dear Mr. Moore:

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of your letter of October 17th, and I note with pleasure that your Commission has approved the 3/16-inch scale models prepared by Mr. Friedlander, for the groups at the entrance to the Arlington Memorial Bridge.

With reference to the last paragraph of your letter, I am also pleased to advise that at the present time, it appears that some difficulties which we have encountered in having appropriated funds transferred to my office have been overcome, and I hope soon to be in a position to push the work of both Mr. Friedlander and Mr. Fraser to completion.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Arno B. Cammerer,
Director.

EXHIBIT A-1

C O P Y

October 17, 1933.

Dear Mr. Pope:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 14, 1933, inspected the pediment group by Mr. James E. Fraser at his studio in Westport, Connecticut. The Commission approved the group.

The Commission congratulated Mr. Fraser on the excellence of his work.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. John Russell Pope, Architect,

542 Fifth Avenue,

New York, N. Y.

EXHIBIT B